

Application No. 10/020,167
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Docket No.: 0229-0683P

Listing of Claims

1. (previously presented) A tape to be wound into a tire component which is made of unvulcanized rubber in which a single cord is embedded along the length thereof, the cord having a diameter being in a range of from 0.3 to 1.5 mm, wherein on each side of the cord embedded portion, a reduced thickness portion having a substantially constant thickness is formed, and the thickness of the tape in the cord embedded portion is larger than the thickness of the tape in each said reduced thickness portion so that the cord is completely embedded in the unvulcanized rubber, and each said reduced thickness portion is wider than the cord embedded portion.
2. (previously presented) The tape according to claim 20, wherein said organic fiber cord has a diameter in a range of 0.3 to 1.5 mm, the width of the tape is in a range of from 10 to 30 mm, and the thickness of the tape is in range of from 0.5 to 1.5 mm when measured in each said reduced thickness portion.
3. (previously presented) The tape according to claim 20, wherein the unvulcanized rubber has short fibers therein, and the short fibers are oriented in the longitudinal direction of the tape.
4. (previously presented) A tire component made of windings of a tape, wherein said tape is made of unvulcanized rubber in which a single cord is embedded along the length thereof, on each side of the cord embedded portion, a reduced thickness portion having a substantially constant thickness is formed, and the thickness of the tape in the cord embedded portion is larger than the thickness of the tape in each said reduced thickness portion so that the cord is completely embedded in the unvulcanized rubber, and

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each said reduced thickness portion is wider than the cord embedded portion.

5. (previously presented) A pneumatic tire comprising a tire component made of windings of a tape, wherein

said tape is made of unvulcanized rubber in which a single cord is embedded along the length thereof,

on each side of the cord embedded portion, a reduced thickness portion having a substantially constant thickness is formed, and the thickness of the tape in the cord embedded portion is larger than the thickness of the tape in each said reduced thickness portion so that the cord is completely embedded in the unvulcanized rubber, and

each said reduced thickness portion is wider than the cord embedded portion.

6-18 (canceled)

19. (previously presented) The pneumatic tire according to claim 5, wherein said tire component is a sidewall rubber.

20. (previously presented) A tape to be wound into a tire component which is made of unvulcanized rubber in which a single organic fiber cord is embedded along the length thereof, wherein

on each side of the cord embedded portion, a reduced thickness portion having a substantially constant thickness is formed, and the thickness of the tape in the cord embedded portion is larger than the thickness of the tape in each said reduced thickness portion so that said organic fiber cord is completely embedded in the unvulcanized rubber, and each said reduced thickness portion is wider than the cord embedded portion.

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21. (new) A tape to be wound into a tire component which is made of unvulcanized rubber in which a single cord having a diameter in a range of 0.3 to 1.5 mm is embedded along the length thereof, wherein
- on each side of the cord embedded portion, a reduced thickness portion having a substantially constant thickness is formed, and the thickness of the tape in the cord embedded portion is larger than the thickness of the tape in each said reduced thickness portion so that said cord is completely embedded in the unvulcanized rubber, and each said reduced thickness portion is wider than the cord embedded portion, and the total width of the tape is in a range of from 10 to 30 mm.
22. (new) The tape according to claim 21, wherein the unvulcanized rubber has short fibers therein, and the short fibers are oriented in the longitudinal direction of the tape.
23. (new) The tire component according to claim 4, wherein the unvulcanized rubber has short fibers therein, and the short fibers are oriented in the longitudinal direction of the tape.
24. (new) The pneumatic tire according to claim 5, wherein the unvulcanized rubber has short fibers therein, and the short fibers are oriented in the longitudinal direction of the tape.